

**Serial No. 09/916,415**

**Atty. Doc. No. A34482PCT-USA(071308.0207)**  
**(1999P03046US02)**

**REMARKS**

Applicants have amended claims 1 and 12. Thus, claims 1, 2, 4 and 11-15 are presented for examination. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims in view of the foregoing amendments and the remarks already presented in the non-compliant amendment which is herein included by reference..

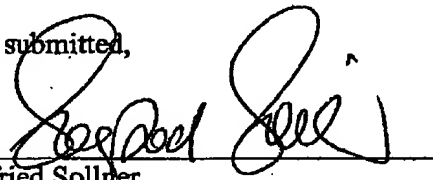
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Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections set forth in the outstanding Office Action are inapplicable to the present claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the rejections and timely pass the application to allowance. Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this paper. The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees due in connection with this paper, including the fees specified in 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 (c), 1.17(a)(1) and 1.20(d) for total independent claims in excess of 3, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2179.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 5/19/06

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